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The Decorator and Furnisher Supplement,

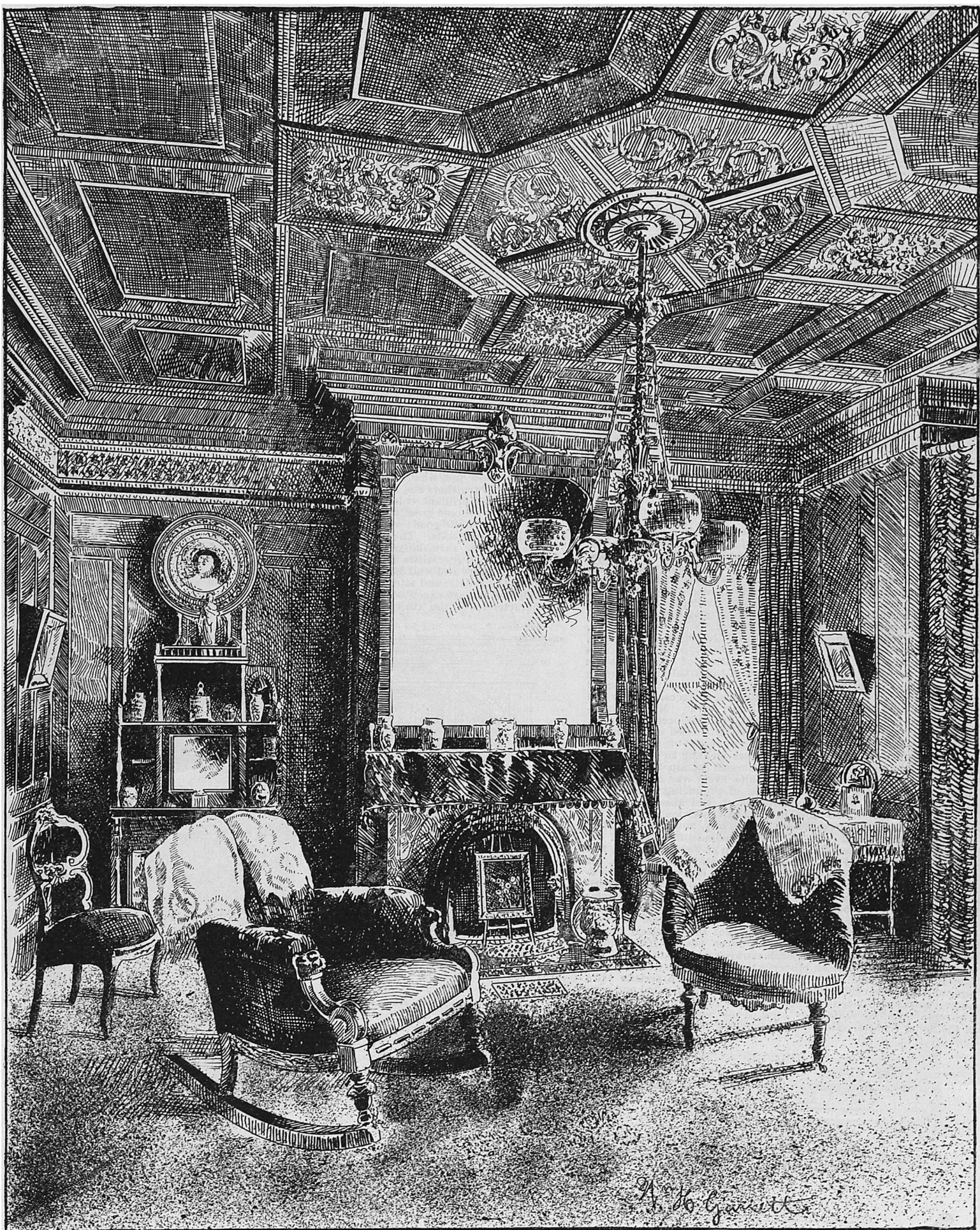
DEVOTED TO THE

Upholstery, Carpet, Furniture and House Furnishing Trades.

VOL. X.

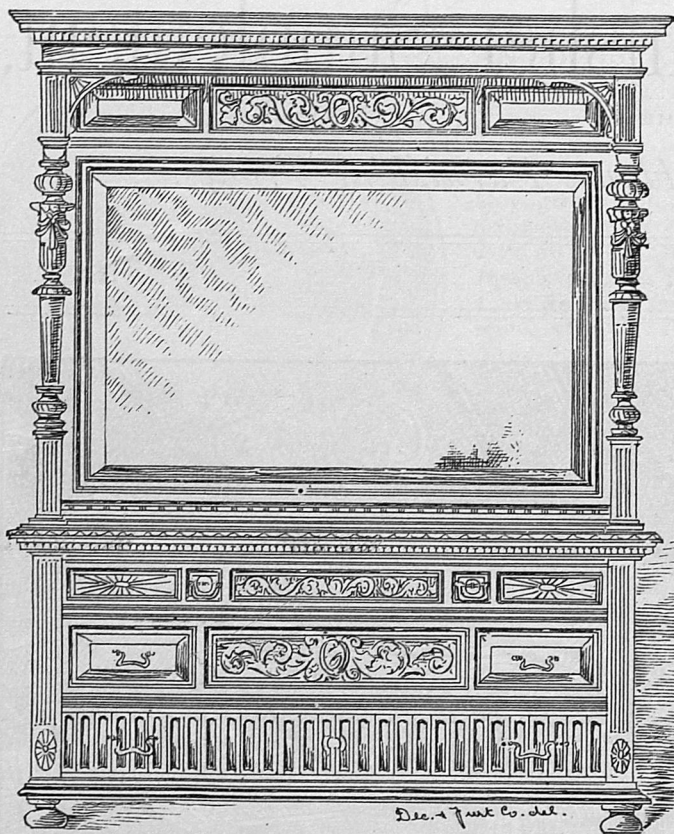
JULY, 1887.

No. 4.



RECEPTION ROOM IN FIGURED WALNUT AND MAHOGANY (SPURR VENEERS), RESIDENCE OF MR. A. M. STETSON, S. BOSTON. (SEE PAGE 130).

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.



DRESSING TABLE, MADE BY MEIER & HAGEN.

AMONG THE TRADES.

BUYERS of fine furnishings become aware by experience that there are many small establishments where well made artistic furniture is made to order from original designs; such a place is that of Messrs. MEIER & HAGEN, No. 213 East Twenty-sixth Street, New York, and the dressing table, chiffonier and bedstead we illustrate on this page are good examples of their work. They are made of oak, and are rich and massive, without being ornate. The carving and workmanship throughout of this suit are of the very best.

* * *

THE Spurr veneers are well known to the trade. For all purposes of interior house decorative finish, for all uses to which wood hangings and tapestries can be put, for panels in cabinet work and for piano and kindred finishes they are known far and wide. These veneers have an interesting history, but the possibilities of which they are susceptible are just beginning to appear. The problem at first was to preserve a wood fibre in usable shape at a thinness that would leave the veneer perfectly pliable and therefore adaptable to every possible surface. In this, Mr. C. W. Spurr succeeded, producing a veneer running from 125 to 175 thicknesses to the inch, reaching a perfection of pliability and economy of choice figures and costly woods phenomenal in the cutting of veneers, at the same time perfectly preserving the fibre of the woods. To preserve these veneers in handling and applying them they were backed with cloth or paper—with cloth for extended surfaces, tapestry and hangings, and with thicker paper for panel work. Making an entire success in plain surfaces, a second problem occurred to Mr. Spurr, that of producing not simply an embossed effect, but an exact representation of hand carving. A series of experiments, founded upon the pliability of his veneers yielding to pressure in a mold, was inaugurated. These experiments within the past year and a half have reached practical results every way acceptable to the trade, and have solved the problem of producing hand carved effects upon actual wood at a nominal cost, and absolutely limitless in application. This new product in veneer manufacture the Messrs. W. E. UPTGROVE & BRO., of this city, now control. They have fitted up a special room at their principal office, 465 and 467 East Tenth Street, where this veneer—plain and embossed—in full variety of samples and in its practical application may be seen. A feature in the display is the handsome temple constructed and exhibited during the Centennial year, and since shown at the American Institute Fair in this city. This elaborate structure occupies fully one half of the room, and every inch is finished with the Spurr veneer, and shows not only the adaptability of the veneer to every possible surface and order of decoration, but the practical test it stands after being knocked about for a dozen years. The temple rises upon twelve large pillars, each showing a separate finish. The woods are maple, American blister walnut, mahogany, Hungarian ash, laurel burl, ash burl, French walnut burl, American satin figured, etc. The ceiling shows an infinite detail of panel and marquetry work, with a central circular panel representing Industry. The temple, unique of itself, is a test of the beauty and durability of the Spurr veneers. Those who know how difficult it is to veneer

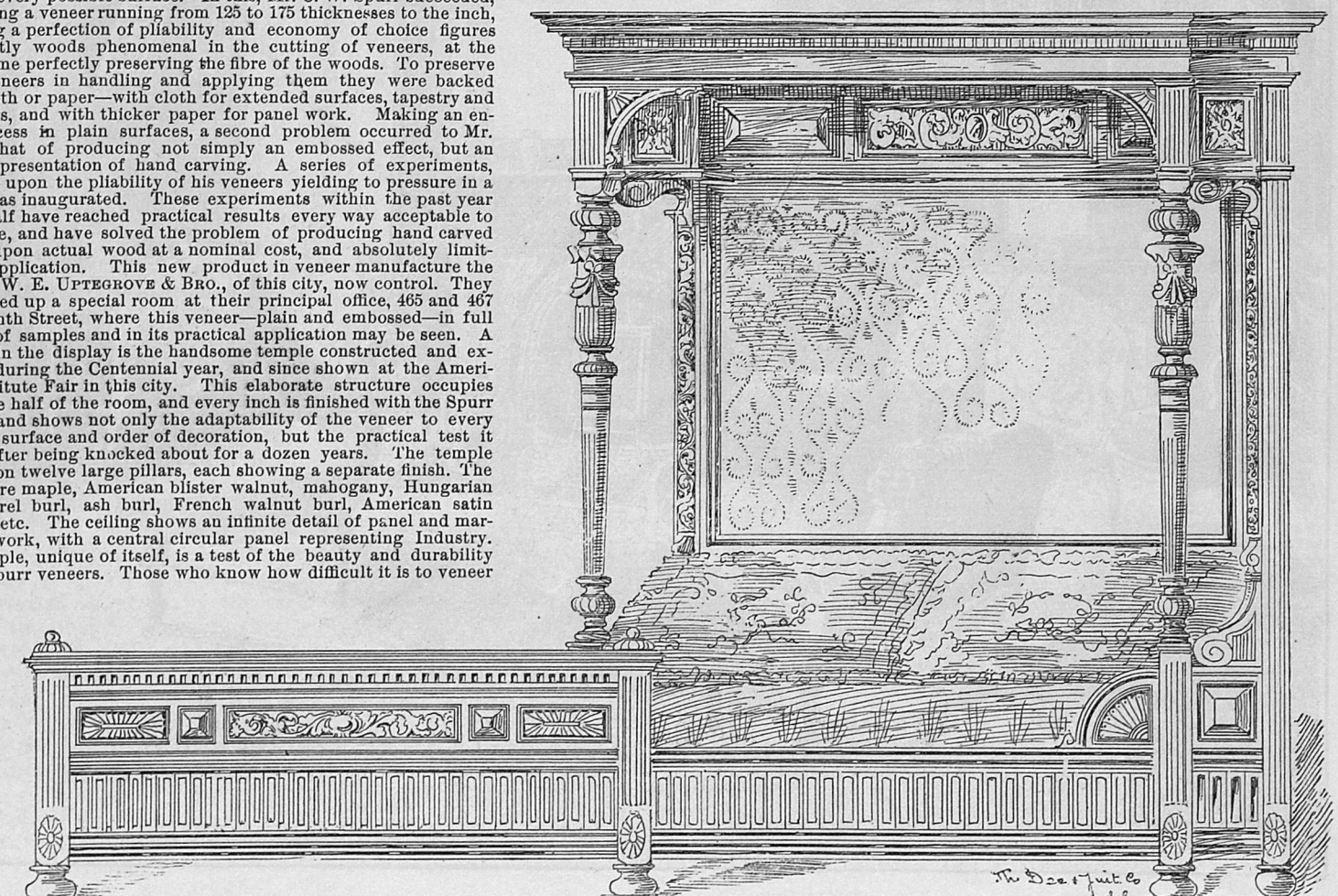


CHIFFONIER, MADE BY MEIER & HAGEN.

a pillar and have the work stand should examine this work. The samples of wood carvings represented in veneers, and shown in maple, walnut, oak, ash, mahogany, cherry and silver birch, will separately interest the looker. There is no limit to the design, and however intricate the fibre remains unbroken. The process of manufacture in brief will be the whole story. It is something as follows: A skilled carver first produces the required design in the usual manner. From this a mold is taken and an iron die cast. Then the thin sheet of wood cemented to a back of stout cloth with a peculiar cement of Mr. Spurr's invention is placed under the die in a press capable of exerting immense power, and the result is an exact copy of the design, with all shades of color, the texture and grain of the wood preserved. The piece after it comes from the press is as flexible and as tough as a piece of leather, and owing to this flexibility it is no more liable to injury than would be the same pattern carved in solid wood. Any number of copies may be produced from one die, and even variety may be given to one design by using different woods. The application of this invention is practically unlimited.

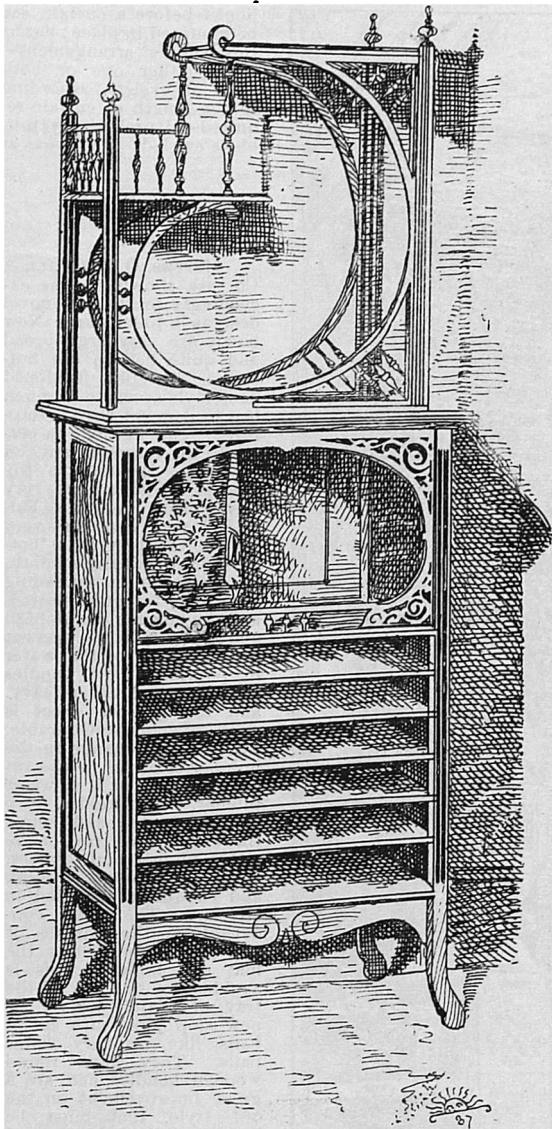
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TO KNOW just what are the most desirable wall hangings is one of the perplexing problems that furnishers and house owners have to encounter. There are so many elegant styles and so many brilliant colorings, that without experience and practical study the selector is likely to become greatly perplexed. Choice novelties are constantly being brought out, and really artistic goods of this class are so generally offered that there is little danger of getting poor goods. The main point is to select with due regard for color and the adaptation to other furnishings. Messrs. J. C. FINN & SON, Tenth and Walnut Streets, Philadelphia, Pa., are specialists in this line. They give particular attention to the manufacture of fine papers and wall hangings of all descriptions, and can be commended as having an unusually artistic and attractive assortment. Fine fresco and mural decorations are also in their line and are executed with the fidelity, correctness and attention to general effect that characterizes all the work of the firm.



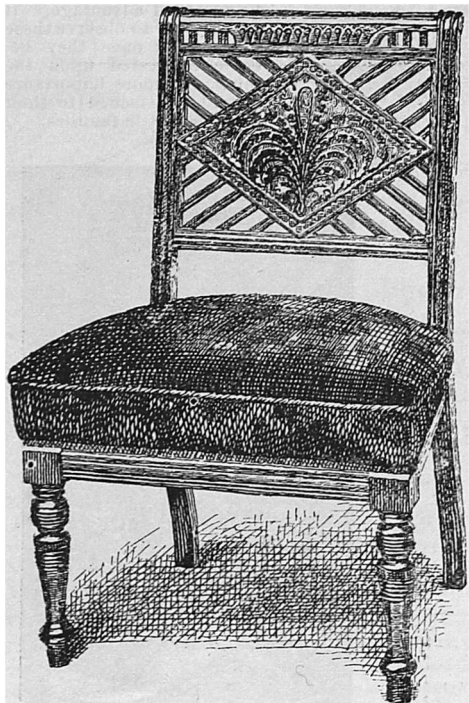
BEDSTEAD, MADE BY MEIER & HAGEN.

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.



MUSIC STAND, MADE BY F. RHONER & CO.

THE increase in the demand for all kinds of artists supplies is one of the remarkable features of the development of good taste in this country. Almost every family has its amateur artist, if indeed there is not a professional or two as well. With this extraordinary demand has come an adequate supply of fine materials so carefully and intelligently prepared that the most inexperienced person could scarcely fail to use them properly. Messrs. FROST & ADAMS, 37 Cornhill, Boston, Mass., keep in stock a most comprehensive assortment of fine and standard artists' materials of every description. Mathematical and draughtsmen's supplies are a specialty of this house and are finished in all of the most approved styles. Orders by mail will receive the most careful attention. Out of town artists may obtain excellent goods at unusually low rates. Indeed, the prices will be scarcely more than as though the materials were selected in person, only postage being added. A very handsome illustrative catalogue sent free.



CHAIR, MADE BY F. MOHR.

FEW persons give due consideration to the provision for their hours of rest. The health is often destroyed and the temper as well by the unsatisfactory rest and sleeplessness which is in many cases brought about by the miserable apologies for beds with which many people provide themselves. Cheap common bedding does not belong in refined and cultivated circles. For these much finer and better articles are demanded. Messrs. B. FITCH & Co., 59 Fourth Avenue, New York, give careful attention to the manufacture of all grades of medium to fine bedding. In their warerooms may be found a well selected stock of standard goods in this line, and also all descriptions of spring beds, mattresses and general furnishings in this line. With extensive facilities and long experience, Messrs. Fitch & Co. are able to supply all demands for first-class goods. The present is the season when such portions of the furnishing of the dwelling should be carefully looked after and renewed. The above firm will furnish estimates and all necessary information upon request.

* * *

MESSRS. NEVIUS & HAVILAND, 406 Broadway, New York, are manufacturing some exceptionally fine wall decorations. They are sole agents for sponge fibre, wood fibre, cortex, corrugated paper, embossed ingrain, and other fine goods in their line. Some of their papers are becoming exceedingly popular for decorative uses. The ingrain paper is admirable for sketching in bold style, or for the broad and efficient use of color in large spaces where filling out is necessary. A pretty idea is the interspersing of panels of this material on the walls of residences. Large spaces in halls may be decorated in this way with excellent effect. Messrs. Nevius & Haviland are also dealers in shade rollers, of which they have a most excellent sort. The "Efficient" is in high favor with those who have used it. At this establishment may also be found paper trimmers, shade cutters and similar implements in use by the trade. Information furnished on application.

* * *

To try to write without a suitable pen is one of the most unsatisfactory of tasks. It has often been said that even an expert could not do good work with inferior tools, and in no sense is this more true than in the selection and use of pens. It has come to be a well understood fact that the Joseph Gillott pens are par excellence. They are approved by all first class architects and draughtsmen, and are the standard pens for fine drawing. All stationers and newsdealers keep them. If they cannot be obtained of dealers write to JOSEPH GILLOTT & SONS, New York, for them.

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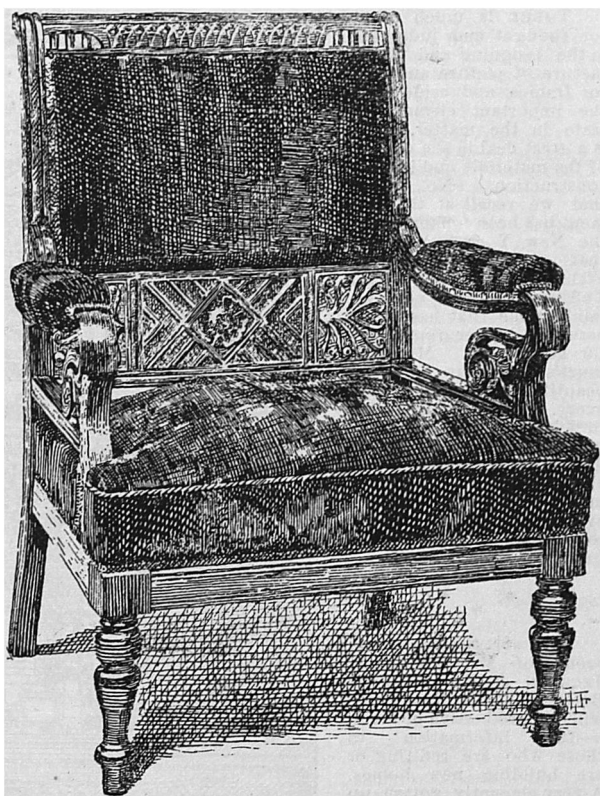
MESSRS. HOSKINS & SEWELL, of No. 16 East Fifteenth Street, are showing a fine line of Brass and Iron Bedsteads of unusually good quality. These goods are not surpassed in our market for quality and price.

* * *

WE were much interested last week in inspecting the stock of fine imported Paper Hangings at the establishment of THE RICHARD TAYLOR PAINTING AND DECORATING CO., 103 West Forty-second Street, New York, where are found English hangings in beautiful designs at very moderate prices, as well as higher grades of rich goods.

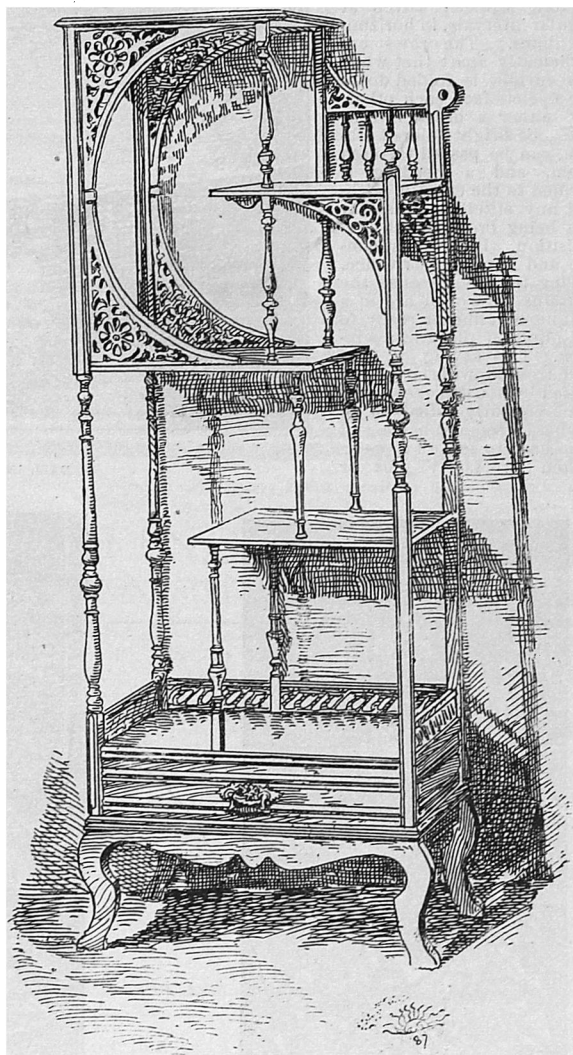
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SINCE stained glass has become such a popular decoration for houses, offices and public buildings in general, there is a disposition on the part of manufacturers to furnish less conventional and more varied and attractive designs. From the KEYSTONE STAINED GLASS WORKS, 271 South Fifth Street, Philadelphia, Pa., are sent out some most admirable specimens of this grade of work. The patterns are unique, the finish admirable, and the general effects particularly rich and artistic. Special attention is given to the reproduction of antique styles, as well as the best and most approved modern patterns. Estimates and designs with all needful information furnished on application to the manufacturers.



CHAIR, MADE BY F. MOHR.

THE task of housefurnishing is one of the most hopeless of undertakings, if the purchaser starts out with other than a definite object and system in view, and a determination to follow that system at all hazards. The inexperienced housewife should select some place of known reliability, where a new and sufficiently varied assortment is to be found in order that she may not be beguiled into buying out of date articles or those that are not adapted to the modern style of housekeeping. There are occasionally business houses, where it seems as though some practical housekeeper had made selections for the stock, so perfectly are the articles adapted to their several purposes. Messrs. LEWIS & CONGER occupy large salesrooms at the junction of Broadway and Sixth Avenue, their stores running through from one street to the other, affording the most perfect facilities for floor space, light, and accessibility. In their extensive assortment are included all sorts of kitchen and laundry utensils, china, crockery, glassware, cutlery, refrigerators of the most approved patterns, and all manner of novelties in table furnishing. There are also some admirable specimens of bronze, copper and brass work, fire sets, ornaments and various useful and decorative articles of the best grade and the most approved styles.



CABINET, MADE BY F. RHONER & CO.

THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

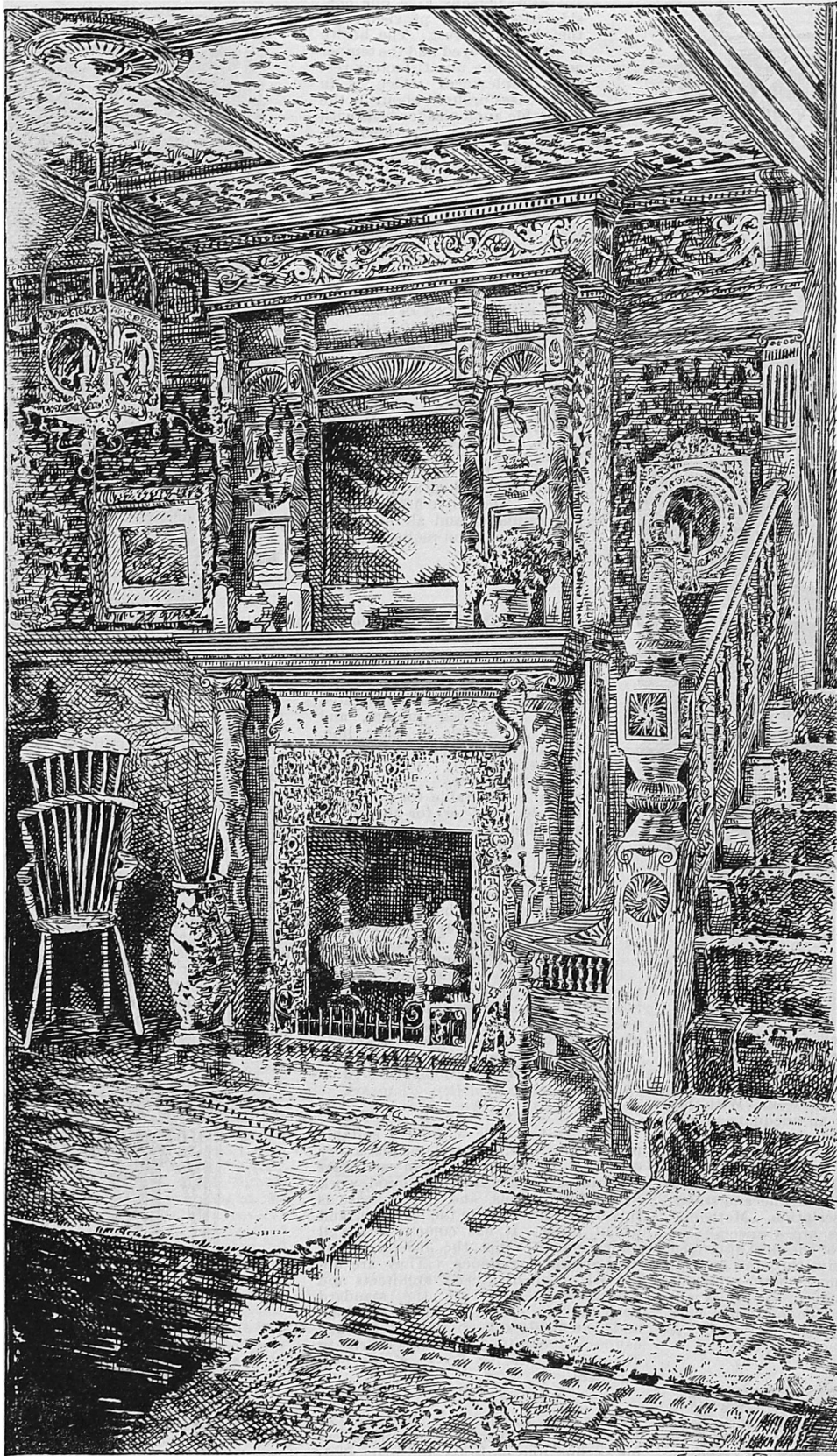
THERE is much scope for thought and judgment in the designing and manufacture of picture and mirror frames, and aside from the important element of taste in the matter, there is a great deal in the quality of the materials and in their construction. No house that we recall at the moment has been longer before the New York public than that of Mr. THOMAS A. WILMURT, No. 54 East Thirteenth Street, and certainly none that has fairly earned a higher reputation for good work. Mr. Wilmurt's frames are not only beautiful in design, but in every case adapted with judicious taste to the subject to be shown, and their durability compares favorably with those of any other maker whose work we have ever known. Their prices too are as low as can be found for good work.

* * *

A VISIT to the ware-rooms of Mr. EDWIN A. JACKSON & BRO., No. 50 Beekman Street, New York, will be productive of much useful information to those who are refitting or are building new homes. A very elegantly gotten up catalogue, containing cuts of new and attractive designs, with other interesting matter, will be mailed to parties who are desirous of investigating the merits of this most ingenious and practical method of heating and ventilating dwellings and offices.

* * *

A NOVEL arrangement for hanging curtains has been patented by J. F. Forth of Nottingham, England, and is called the "Queen" Curtain. Messrs. W. H. FLETCHER & Co. are the agents for the United States. In the upper part of each curtain there are two rows of long eyelets, woven at regular intervals, in horizontal lines. The rows are sufficiently apart that when the curtain is folded down the eyelets face each other, and either a brass rod or stick, or bright-colored ribbon, can be passed through them, and a heading is formed to the curtain, without any stitching or safety pin being brought into requisition. It is a most simple and handy contrivance, saving trouble, because the curtains so woven are in a couple of minutes ready to be hung in place at a window. This saving of time and trouble will be appreciated by housekeepers, who are frequently called on to prepare a room in haste, and who have to sew on rings or fasten in safety pins or



HALL IN RESIDENCE OF J. B. MULLIN, WATERBURY, CONN.

hooks before a curtain can be mounted in place; but by this simple arrangement—using either one or both rows of eyelets, according to the length of curtain required—all preliminary trouble is evaded.

* * *

MESSRS. O. A. GAGER & Co. are showing some exceedingly pretty and novel designs in toilet ware. New bowls are very large, broad and quite flat on the bottom. The old fashioned deep style seems to be much less in demand than heretofore. The new one is certainly an improvement on anything formerly in the market. Pitchers are very full bodied, "as fat as Falstaff," and standing very low in the bowl; the bottoms are broad and smooth, the sides in a spreading curve, the top quite narrow and the pouring spout high and deep, so as to prevent the splashing of the water in pouring. The handles are strong and rather heavy, and the general effect is snug, capacious and durable. There is no change in the number of pieces in the ordinary set. There is water pitcher, brush holder, soap dish, cup, etc., and sometimes a plate or tray for the water pitcher and glasses. This is an important item, and should be included in all sets. The water condenses on the outside of the pitcher and soils the mat and table. This is avoided by the use of the tray or plate. There are new slop jars, with metal balls like ordinary water pails. They have round wooden handles, and are a great improvement on the old style, that must be lifted with both hands, and was in constant danger of breakage from its insecure grasp.

There is a custom which is to be commended, that of using a caraffe instead of the ordinary pitcher. It is a fact that is not sufficiently understood, that a dish of water that has remained uncovered over night in a sleeping room is rank poison to some persons, and to drink a cup of such water would produce all the symptoms of poisoning. It is therefore desirable that the vessel containing drinking water should be covered. If a pitcher is used a napkin should be laid over it. If a bottle a glass may be put over the top. A small napkin under the glass would be an added advantage. It is very easy to observe these precautions once they be come impressed upon the mind, and more importance should be attached to their enforcement in families.



THE "CRUSADER" FIREPLACE LININGS AND DECORATIVE PANELS, MADE BY SMITH & ANTHONY STOVE COMPANY, BOSTON.